

# The Beatles MONTHLY BOOK

No. 25

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YEAR



EVERY MONTH

Price ONE SHILLING & SIXPENCE

# The Beatles Book

*The Beatles' Own Monthly Magazine*

No. 25. AUGUST, 1965

Price in U.S.A. & CANADA 50 cents.

## EDITORIAL

Hi!

THE BOYS TOLD ME TO TELL YOU how pleased they were to be welcomed by such a big crowd of Beatle people at London Airport when they arrived back from their first big European tour. By the way, don't forget that they will be off to America again on August 13th, so I hope that everyone who lives near the Airport will go and help give them the biggest send-off that they have ever had.

WHAT A TIME FOR BEATLE MUSIC THIS IS. Sixteen new songs plus the film. As usual they have given us a lot of fresh surprises. On one track, "Yesterday" you'll only hear one Beatle, Paul. He's backed, not by John, Ringo and George, but by a string quartet. It's quite incredible the way they keep on springing surprises through every new number that they've done. I think that their latest single is just about the best thing the boys have ever done. Let's hear what you think. Then I'll publish the best letter and give the writer £5.

IN THIS ISSUE we have the first in a great new series on the Boys' childhoods—giving an intimate glimpse of what J, P, G, and R were like when they were children. Some of the facts revealed by their parents, school masters and friends are really extraordinary. I would like to thank the Beatles' parents particularly, for helping us in this new series, and also for giving me some unusual shots of the boys to reproduce in the Beatles Book.

See you next month.

**Johnny Dean** Editor.

PS. For the benefit of all our American and Canadian readers, I want to point out that money, for subscriptions or back issues of the Beatles Book, should NEVER be sent to any other address than, The Beatles Book, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2, England. No other person or company is authorised to supply subscriptions direct to North America from England, and obviously we can't help any reader who sends money to someone else and then does not receive anything in return. This of course does not apply to all the American organisations who are kind enough to accept subscriptions and then send them on to us.

George, John, Paul and a hidden Ringo all piled on to a snow sleigh for this shot from "Help!".

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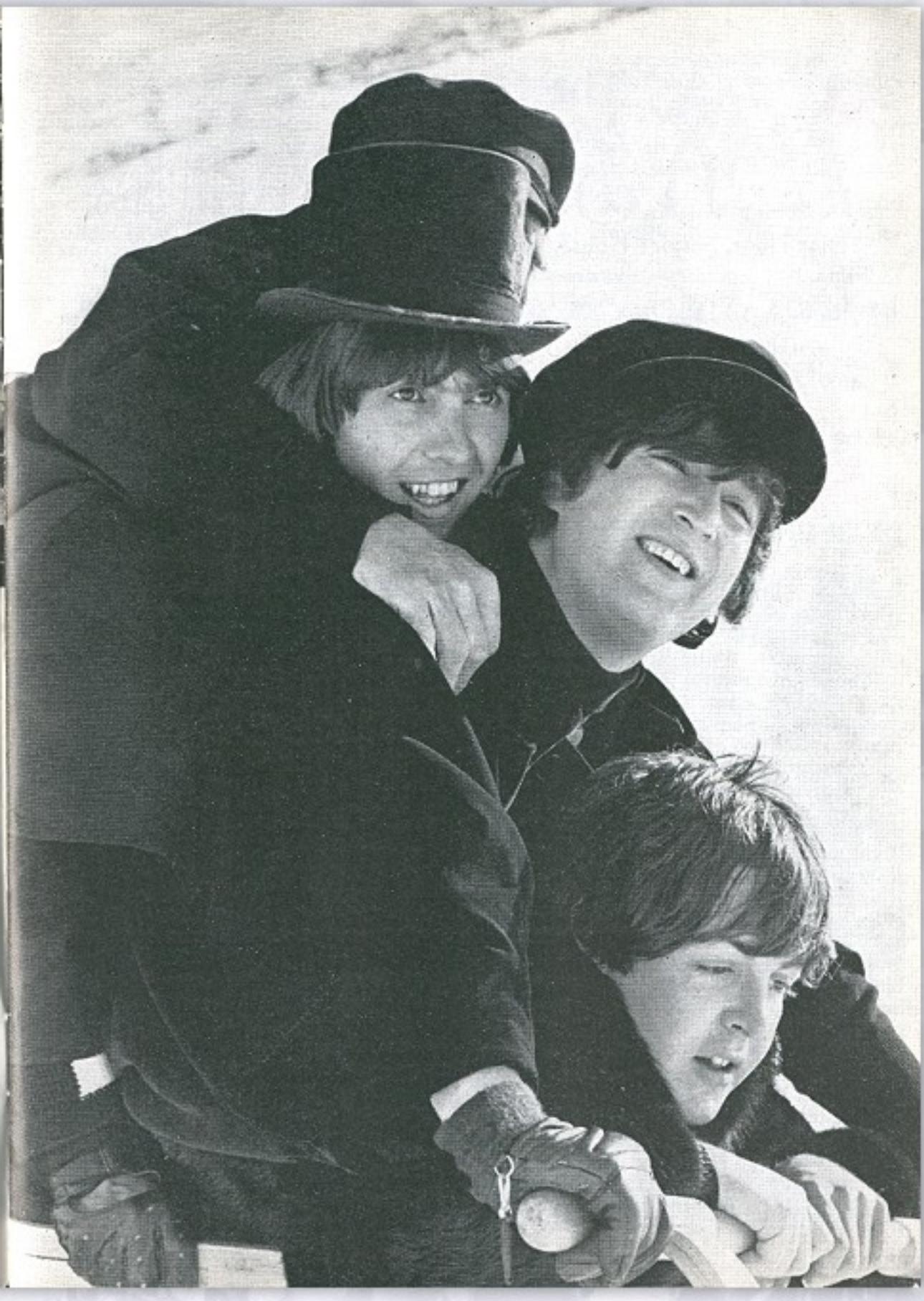
**Editor: JOHNNY DEAN**

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# The Official Beatles FAN CLUB

First Floor, Service House, 13 Monmouth Street, London, W.C.2.

Fan Club Telephone: London COVent Garden 2332

Beatles (U.S.A.) Ltd., Box 505, Radio City Station, New York, N.Y. 10019.

Canada: Miss Trudy Metcalf, 7 Stratton Ave., Scarborough, Ont., Canada

## NEWSLETTER

August 1965

### DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

I always calculate my years with the Beatles by my Summer holidays. When I go this year—later on this month—I will have concluded another twelve months with the boys. It's been the usual busy year but it wasn't until July I really felt I needed a holiday. It was a case of "HELP!", "HELP!" and more "HELP!". First "HELP!" came with the release of the single record title song of the film. Second "HELP!" the premiere of the actual film followed by the general release. Now more "HELP!" is on the way. It will arrive on 6th August when the new L.P. will be on sale. Fourteen tracks in all—the seven soundtrack numbers making up side one and another seven, equally fantastic, on side two. Four of these are solos one by each of the boys. All but two of the compositions are by the Beatles—ten Lennon-McCartney and two rare George Harrison's. George sings both of his—one on each side. The beauty of this record is that you can review half of it yourselves when you see the film.

Beatle records are being bought by the hundreds of thousands in almost every country in the world. However, the real test for any group is when they arrive to give live performances in these foreign countries like the tour of France, Italy and Spain that the boys have just finished. There were terrific ovations at every performance in France. They were given anything but the rather cool reception which is typical of French teenagers. And the story continued in Italy and Spain though they were not quite so mad. Perhaps one of their greatest tests was Spain, where they just *don't* go mad over anybody apart from the occasional bull fighter. It took the Beatles to disprove this. Thousands packed the bullrings in Madrid and Barcelona for the performances. They left for home to the sound of pleas for a swift return. We can now list two more countries visited and conquered, in a big way.

Two days before their departure for France and tour we had Paul's birthday. Three days after they were back saw thousands more cards and hundreds of presents for Ringo's 25th on 7th July. I warned him by telephone that he couldn't possibly collect it all by himself. He took my advice and arrived at our office with Mal Evans—the boys' buddy and assistant road manager—complete with van. Ringo proclaimed his birthday a holiday for himself, which left him doing the opening and Mal most of the lifting. He has asked me to say thank you to all who sent cards. Between us we hope to be able to acknowledge all gifts by post. He tells me he has managed to acquire his parents help in this mammoth task.

There are several important changes to the list of Area Secretaries to be noted. Owing to increasing school work in preparation for important exams, Patsy Clark—area secretary for Sussex—has had to give up her position. I'm now in need of two new Area Secretaries. Apart from the Sussex area vacancy, I also need somebody for Kincardineshire. Please remember to mark the outside of your envelope "Area Secretary Application". The new secretary for Hampshire by the way is: Miss Susan Wheeler, 109 Methuen Road, Eastney, Portsmouth, Hampshire. Susan has taken over from Janine Hall.

Due to a change of address just before the Area Secretary List was printed in June's Beatle Book, the Leicestershire and Rutland Area was omitted. It is still Miss Shirley Simms, but her new address is: 21 Dupont Close, Branstone, Frith, Leicester.

Please note an amendment to the list of fan clubs overseas as published in last month's Beatle Book. Axel Weiss is no longer running the branch in Germany. New name and address for this branch: Jutta-Monika Burgi, 7902 Blaubeuren—Gerhausen, Unt Buchhaldenstr, 1, Western Germany.

Before I sign off for another month I would just like to wish you all a very happy Summer holiday from all of us here at the fan club headquarters.

Lots of good luck,

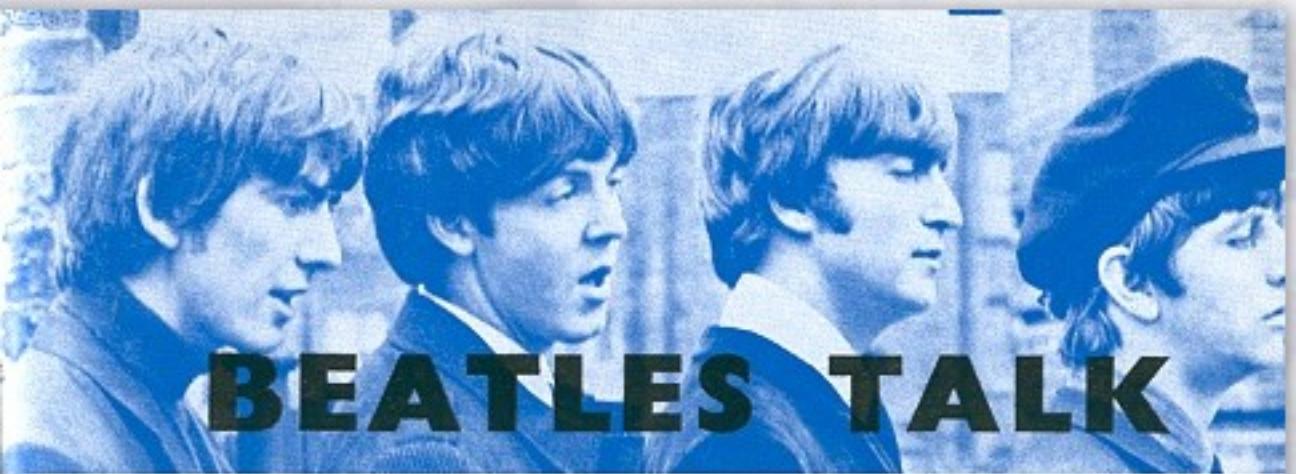
*Anne Collingham*

ANNE COLLINGHAM *National Secretary of The Official Beatles Fan Club*





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# BEATLES TALK

**Another in the special series in which FREDERICK JAMES lets his tape recorder listen in on informal conversations between John, Paul, George and Ringo.**

**JOHN:** It's all four of us again this month is it? Well, what shall we start with? The European tour?

**PAUL:** Well, I thought it was gear. The worst bit was travelling to and from the concerts. We hurtled through the streets in little tin police vans and other vehicles kept coming tearing out of side streets and banging into the side of us. Ridiculous!

**JOHN:** It only happened twice. It didn't keep happening!

**RINGO:** It was very hot—specially towards the end of the tour in Italy and Spain. Barcelona was dripping with sun.

**JOHN:** And I left my mouth organ in the hotel there. Luckily Cilla arrived in Barcelona just after we left. She rescued my mouth organ—

**PAUL:** Harmonica.

**JOHN:** Yes mouth organ, and brought it home with her.

**GEORGE:** Apparently . . . . .

**JOHN:** I was wondering how long you were going to sit there staring at the tape recorder.

**GEORGE:** As I said, apparently we had the biggest crowd we've ever played to in a single day at Milan. Brian said there were 32,000 people at the two concerts. The previous record was 23,000 last summer at Jacksonville, during the American tour.

**RINGO:** We didn't have any language problems on the tour—we just went about not understanding anybody, that was all.

**PAUL:** It was a short tour and we didn't have all that much free time yet we did a helluva lot really. Did a bit of night-clubbing in Paris, a bit of go-karting later on.

**JOHN:** We've autographed some funny things in our time but at Barcelona this bloke got us to sign dirty big barrels of wine!

**GEORGE:** We'd arrive at each new place and one of us would say 'That's funny—I thought we were playing the such-and-such theatre'. It was only then that the people would tell us they'd switched from a small theatre to a big stadium so they could get in a bigger audience.

**PAUL:** Anyway we enjoyed the tour and since it was our first trip into Spain and Italy we hope we left behind us a lot of new *El Beatle People* so that we'll sell extra copies of "*El Helpo!*"

**JOHN:** Is that my cue to plug the new album? I thought you said we could just lead the conversation round to it very casually. That wasn't very casual was it?

**PAUL:** Anyway *Beatle People*, we hope you like the new album. We've tried to put as many different types of stuff into it as possible. There are two vocals from George, one from Ringo and one track by me with just an acoustic guitar and a string quartet for accompaniment.

**JOHN:** Well you've done it now, haven't you. I mean I don't need to do another one, another plug for the album, do I?

**PAUL:** No, it'll be O.K.

**JOHN:** Good, I'll plug my book instead. Don't forget, folks, "*Spaniard In The Works*" has been in your bookshop for more than 30 days now. Buy it quickly before it gets all dusty and yellow!

**PAUL:** Ringo, where are those two giant birthday cards you had?

**RINGO:** I didn't cart them all the way here. It's not as though we're doing photos is it. I can



describe the cards without actually bringing them over you know. They came from some fans in Sweden and there were three separate cards each about three feet long and they all joined up to make one very large birthday card. Great!

PAUL: Tell them about your spears.

RINGO: Oh, yes, I added to my collection of antique armaments. I had birthday presents of an early 18th century sword from my parents and a fantastic pikestaff from Maureen. We had a quiet birthday. Went up to my parents' place in Liverpool for the day and had a bit of a party there in the evening. Just a few close friends, mostly people I've known for years and years. That's what birthdays should be like—family affairs with old friends.

JOHN: If you go on getting arms and stuff you can have your own army by the time you're thirty. Think of it! You could lead a revolution and we'd all charge the Houses of Parliament brandishing 17th century pikestaffs.

RINGO: Seriously, this business of collecting swords and old guns has got a hold of me. I can't wait to find new pieces to buy. It all started a while back when somebody gave me this fantastic Roman oil lamp that dated back to A.D. 50. That was the start of the collection. What are you collecting, John? Black Rolls Royce cars and parking tickets isn't it?

JOHN: They won't leave me alone about the new Rolls, Beatle People!

PAUL: Tell them about the washing machine and centrally-heated bath-tub you've fixed in it! Not to mention the chip fryer, cat kennel and slot machine for coke!

JOHN: Not true, Beatle People! Actually I've got a writing table and a cocktail cabinet fixed in the back. And a small telly. And all the window glass is tinted black so that I can get a decent picture on the telly even in broad daylight. All I need now is confidence to drive the thing! And a magnet in the engine to make the car drive home O.K. without losing its way!

GEORGE: After "Blackpool Night Out" we'll be starting to pack for America. So we ought to say 'Bye' to Beatle People now.

RINGO: Who'll be packing? Speak for yourself! I won't be packing until the morning we leave!

GEORGE: Well, what you do isn't packing anyway. It's cramming. You just chuck everything into cases and jump on the lids until they close! Hey, did you hear about these four blokes who reckon they want to act as decoys for us during the tour?

PAUL: Oh yeah. Can't remember where they're from but there was a picture of them in one of the papers.

JOHN: They're American aren't they?

GEORGE: Yes. They've said they'll be at the airport in New York when we arrive. It's not as though we've asked them to be. We haven't even written to them or talked to them. They sound like nuts!

PAUL: One of them is supposed to look like me. Then there's one who is just like Ringo!

RINGO: He's not. He has a big long nose and happens to be wearing a cap that looks vaguely like one of mine!

JOHN: Well, before we set off just let's set the record straight for any American Beatles Book readers. We are NOT hiring any decoys for the American tour. They're nothing to do with us and we don't even WANT decoys.

PAUL: It'll be O.K. I expect it's all a publicity story. I don't suppose they'll turn up.

JOHN: Mind you, if they did turn up and the cops started looking after them by mistake it might not be a bad thing . . . at least we'd get the chance to talk to a few of the fans instead of being whipped about in police convoys everywhere!

GEORGE: That's it for this month, then. See you all when we get home again at the beginning of September—and if you're going away for your holidays in August, have a good time, won't you?

## THE TRUE STORY OF THE BEATLES



If you have not been able to obtain your copy you can still get it direct from:

THE BEATLES BOOK, 36-38 Westbourne Grove, London, W.2, England. Send a postal Order for 5/6 (inc. postage & packing). U.S.A. & Canada—One Dollar.



# "YOUNG JOHN"

*The first of a new series  
on the Beatles' childhood  
days.*

Dear Fater Xmas,

will you please bring me a water pistal with love from John,  
and do not forget a money box with a key, and a pair of gloves, and  
have you any books and would you try to get some dinkies please,  
also a pair of skates.

So went one of the very first literary efforts of 5 years old John Winston Lennon, present-day author, musician, singer, songwriter and humourist.

John is probably the most difficult Beatle of all to talk about. He's such a very direct, but at the same time, complex character. But let's see what the people who knew him best, as a child and at school, have to say about the Young John.

His Aunt, Mimi Smith who raised him from the age of five, after his parents had separated, describes the schoolboy John as, "A lovable rebel. He hated any kind of conformity," she says, "and those who wanted to make him conform, especially his school masters. When he was at art school he had a lot of homework to do, and I had to lean over him all the time to make sure that he did it. If George or Paul came round to see him it became quite hopeless."

## LOVED ANIMALS

"He loved animals, especially our cat, Sam, which only died last year. He was really heart broken when I told him the sad news.

"He was a very handsome little boy, with silver-gold hair and big brown

eyes. I don't think he minds people looking at him now, because they used to do it when he was a child, on buses and places like that. He got so used to it that if they didn't look at him he would go up to them and say "I'm John Lennon, I am".

"He was always the leader of his little gang, and insisted on being the Indian and never the Cowboy. But I remember that his word was law. If he said "You're dead", then his friend had better accept the fact that he was dead. John wouldn't argue about it. To be an Indian, he had to have all the equipment. I used to go to the fish-shop to buy a bundle of feathers to make him a head-dress. This still wasn't enough though; he insisted that he wanted to look even more like an Indian. So, in the end, he persuaded me to paint him all over with gravy browning. You should have seen him, he looked a real sight.

"He also had this little house built in a tree, in our back garden. From the spring onwards it was impossible to see through the leaves, and he used to hide in there for hours. He called it his 'den', and used to sit there drawing and making up rhymes, just like those in his books. I used to get annoyed because he kept stealing all my clothes lines to make alterations to his tree-house.



John aged 10. A Dovedale Road school photograph.



## IF HE WAS NAUGHTY

"At first, when he was naughty, I sent him to his room, but he was always so quiet when I did this that one day I decided to see what he did up there. I crept up to the door and looked in ... there he was, sitting very comfortably in an easy chair reading a book. He was perfectly happy, and all the time I thought I'd been punishing him. He always loved reading, but only classics. I never saw him look at a comic or a novel. To this day, I don't think he has ever read a novel. His favourite books were all about painting and painters, like John Ruskin's 'Book of Beauty'."

Mr. Ballard—John's tutor during Intermediate course at art school—gives a completely different picture of John during his teens:—

"Compared with other students, he was very reticent and quiet. His work wasn't very good, but then neither was that of the other students'. His class mates were very sympathetic towards him and helped to cover up his mistakes. I don't remember him as a leader. His friend, Stuart Sutcliff, on the other hand, was a real trendsetter, in my opinion.

## REHEARSED AT SCHOOL

"I remembered that John played the guitar in those days. I think he rehearsed mainly at school because his Aunt wouldn't allow him to play it at home. He was always being told to 'Pack up that guitar, and get down to some work'.

"The reason I liked John was because I go for people who are different. At first I didn't think he had any particular talent, but that was before I found his sketch-book.

"All the students had a sketch-book for normal school work, but this one was his private book that I'd never seen before. Inside were loads of drawings

John when he was 8 years old on his first two wheeled bike.

and satirical comments about the staff and pupils, that obviously formed the basis for his first book.

"To say that they were brilliant would be an understatement. They showed a brand new Lennon. Everybody loved that book, regardless of whether they were mentioned in it or not. After this point his general work improved. He felt that he now had something to offer, and could experiment with new ideas instead of just sticking to the usual curriculum.

#### MADE FOR EACH OTHER

"Cynthia also helped a great deal at this stage. She was his guiding light, and even though she was the top girl in her class, she always managed to spare time for John. Even in those days they were really made for each other.

"Once I'd seen his sketch book, I felt convinced that John could become a brilliant graphic artist, so I recommended him for the Graphic School of Art. Unfortunately, at this particular time, John was getting a reputation as a rebel, and because of this, the Graphic School refused point blank to have him. I was certain he would succeed, so I kept trying like mad, and finally they did accept him, but in the painting, not the graphic school. This was totally wrong, but there was nothing I could do. His graphic talents just faded out and after about six months he left. I was very annoyed because I was certain he would have been brilliant.

"The last time I saw John was at the last Liverpool Rag Day in 1960. I was driving through the crowd, which had got completely out of control, when suddenly the car was pelted with fruit and tomatoes. I peered out, and there was John with some of his friends, grinning all over their faces. He came over and apologised, and we parted the best of friends."

*In a future issue of The Beatles Book we'll be giving you a close up of John as he is today.*

Playing ball in his Aunt Mimi's garden. 





## BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Madeleine Owens (13), 1 Westwood Road, Allerton, Liverpool 18, wants p.p., Canada, Australia.

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Nina May, 3913 San Carlos, Tampa, Florida 33609, U.S.A., wants p.p., England.

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Anne Moran, 224 Albert Road, Leyton, London, E.10, wants p.p., America.

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Lolage Campbell (13), Old School House, Colemore, Nr. Alton, Hants., wants p.p., California.

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Linda Gillespie (18), 311 Stenners Run Road, Baltimore 21, Maryland, U.S.A., wants p.p., England.

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Babs O'Donnell (13), No. 2 Gil Service Mess, Steamer Pt., B.F.P.O. 69, Aden, wants p.p., America, Liverpool, Germany.

Joan Chant (20), 65 Hanbury Road, Dorridge, Solihull, Warws., wants p.p., America.

Hilary Bailey (12), 49b Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, wants p.p., America, Australia, Canada.

*Top:* Ringo with one of the film technicians on the set at Twickenham.

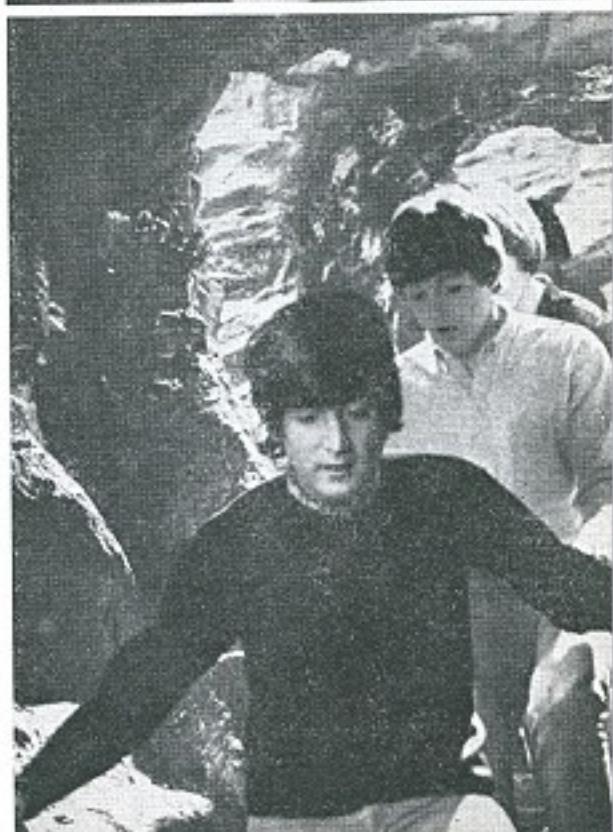
*Middle:* John giving one of his well-known "Heil" salutes during the filming of the train scene in Austria.

*Bottom:* The boys standing in the sea during the filming in Nassau.

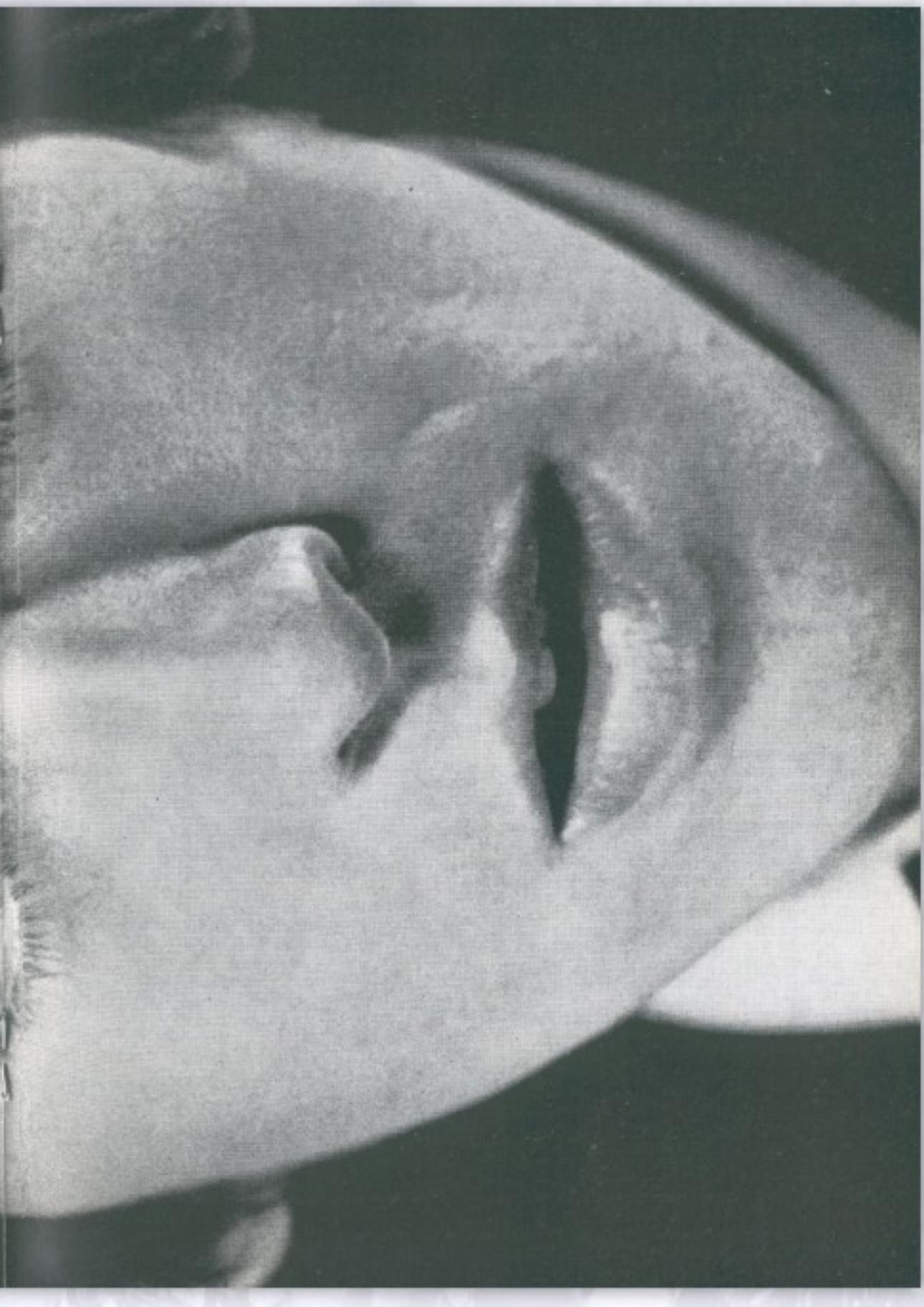
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 Liz Patterson (13), P.O. Box 117, Hartsville, South Carolina, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.  
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 Nina Vetsickova, 12 Na rybniku, Praha 2, Czechoslovakia, wants p.p. England.  
 Mari-an DeNardi (16), R.D. No. 2, Dillenvale, Ohio 43917, U.S.A., wants p.p. England.  
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 Denise Morgan (14), 8 Rosamund House, Market Street, Trinity Estate, Salford 3, wants p.p. Canada, Australia, New Zealand.

*Top:* Paul checks a strip of film from the previous day's shooting.

*Bottom:* The boys descending through a dark and mysterious passage during the filming.









## LETTERS from Beatle PEOPLE

Dear Johnny,

It would make my life complete,  
If the Beatles I should meet.  
To see my most adorable Paul,  
The one I love most of all.  
To laugh at John's witty jokes,  
Who I'm sure is one of the nicest blokes.  
To ask Ringo why he looks so sad,  
When he really is a happy lad.  
To plead with George to say it's "Dead Grotty",  
When he does I go potty.  
Oh! what a thrilling experience it would be,  
If the film set I should see.  
I'm sure I would jump with glee,  
Oh! how happy I would be!

The world's most devoted Beatle fan,  
Lyn Knight (age 17),  
5, Folly Way,  
Grove Hill,  
Highworth,  
Wiltshire.

Dear Beatles (especially John and Paul),

To say the least my friend and I (along with 750 fans) were very disappointed when the Airport Officials would not let us see you Fabulous Four off from the Queen's Building. Fortunately my friend and I saw a glimpse of John and George, and touched Ringo and Paul's car, and smothered it with Jelly Babies. I also fully agree with those girls who marched to Fleet Street to complain about the Airport Mix Up. Honestly if you had seen some of the girls breaking their hearts and crying because they had missed you, you would have not been in such a hurry to go. I know it was not entirely your fault, but please, please us by allowing the airport officials to let us see you come in from the Queen's building.

Well we HOPE to see you soon, Good Luck in America.

Love from two Beatle Crazy Girls,  
Peggy (Lennon) Green and  
Pat (McCartney) Mason.  
Peggy Green,  
24, Albany Road,  
Brentford,  
Middlesex.

George answers:

We always try to organise things so that we can see everybody who's come to see us, but we don't own the airport and it's all really up to the officials as to what they allow.

Dear Johnny and Beatles,

I've noticed that not many letters from New Zealand fans get into your Beatles' Monthly magazine, so I decided to write on behalf of all the "Kiwi" fans. (We love them as much as any other Beatle fans all over the world you know!) First, I would like the Beatles to answer this question which has been bugging me for several months now. Why, why, why, do you think that New Zealand is like 18th century England —we have no slums whatever over here and people don't get round in Victorian dress! We do have mod people over here (I'm one of them) and we also have excellent dances for teens, and fab shops for purchasing mod clothes. Please answer that question—it's making me sick thinking about it! We can't wait for their new film not to forget their new L.P., and everyone raves over "Ticket to Ride".

Yours very sincerely,  
Annette Foster,  
72, Williams Street,  
Cambridge,  
New Zealand.

Ringo answers:

We do have our off-moments you know, Annette. One or two things in N.Z. seemed a bit old fashioned but then some things in old England are definitely 10th Century—so, don't take it to heart.

Dear Beatles,

I'm from Argentina; that country they say is like an L.P. record because it has 33 revolutions per minute, but it's not so bad as it seems; newspapers always exaggerate (as you may know by now).

I simply want to congratulate you all for your marvellous songs and outstanding personality.

Here also you are very liked by the teenagers, who, believe it or not, practise their English by translating the words of your songs.

Taking advantage of your good humour, I send you this little flag. Hope you like it. The translation is: "NEVER DRINK WATER", and it's from "Mendoza, the land of the bright sun and good wine".

Chau simpáticos!!!  
Carinosamente Rita,  
45, Matienzo Street,  
Maipú,  
Mendoza,  
Argentina.

Dear Johnny Dean,

In Beatles Monthly No. 24 you gave a list of the official overseas fan clubs. You put the fan club leader for Nigeria as a Miss, the person is in fact a boy, Mr. Dapo Odesanya. I have a relation who knows him very well and I would like to inform you of your mistake.

Is there likely to be a fan club in Aden and do they sell Beatle Monthlys over there? Could you give me the address of the fan club in Nottingham as I will be moving in September?

Yours faithfully,

Celia Stewart,  
13, Hamilton House,  
Corby,  
Northants.

*Johnny Dean answers:*

Sorry about the mistake Celia and Mr. Dapo. And to answer your questions:

- (1) I'm afraid there is no fan club in Aden.
- (2) You can't buy the Beatles Monthly Book there, but we can always send it by post.
- (3) The Nottingham Fan Club Secretary is Joan Liversidge, 49 North Road, Retford, Notts.

Dear Johnny,

Please give us a little longer to answer your competitions. Here we get the magazine a month late and by that time the answers have to be in England. So please give us a chance.

When oh when are the Beatles coming to Rhodesia and South Africa? They don't seem to realise how many fans they have in this part of the world. "Ticket to Ride" has been top of three Hit Parades for four weeks now and "Beatles for Sale" was the top selling L.P. for months, to say nothing of the records that went before. Last year The Beatles were No. 1 for 13 weeks on the Rhodesian Hit Parade and so far this year have been top for 10 weeks with "I Feel Fine", Rock and Roll Music and "Ticket to Ride". For only two weeks during this entire period, Jan. 1964—June 1965 have the Beatles not been on the Top Ten. This Hit Parade is made up only of records sold throughout the country. In South Africa the story is the same. They are never off the Hit Parades and are top for weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Kuttner,  
55, Duncan Road,  
Suburbs,  
Bulawayo,  
Rhodesia.

*Johnny Dean answers:*—

Sorry about the competitions, Helen; we'll try and organise it in future.

Dear John, George, Paul and Ringo,

Maybe you think that the reception you got in Rome wasn't quite up to the standard of the ones you are used to (even though, I assure you, for a roman reception was far, far more than anybody could expect, romans are very sleepy).

I understand many fans got to know all the places and everything, I wonder how. I've tried my best. I didn't want to bother you, I just wanted to greet you and to get John to sign his book "A Spaniard in the works" which I had just bought in London five days ago. I love it so much and I'd have been so happy to have his signature on it! Well! I wasn't very lucky. And you should have seen those Carabinieri, how rudely they were pushing us in the back of the theatre! But the concerts were fantastic (I've been at 3 of them). I don't know how to thank you, Paul, you are adorable when you try to speak Italian, specially when you say een-tee-to-la-dow (it sounds rather Spanish, but it's fab). George, you are a WOW! With capital letters, John, you are electrifying. I couldn't take my eyes off you, Ringo, you seem to be the big favourite, don't you? Everybody was calling RIN-GO! RIN-GO! What a show, I'll never forget them all my life! I hope to see you again in the States. A big kiss to each of you. (and thanks for coming over here).

Marina Giovanella,  
Via Campo Marsio 24,  
Roma,  
ITALY.

PS. You see, I've seen you in America and I can tell the difference.

Dear Paul,

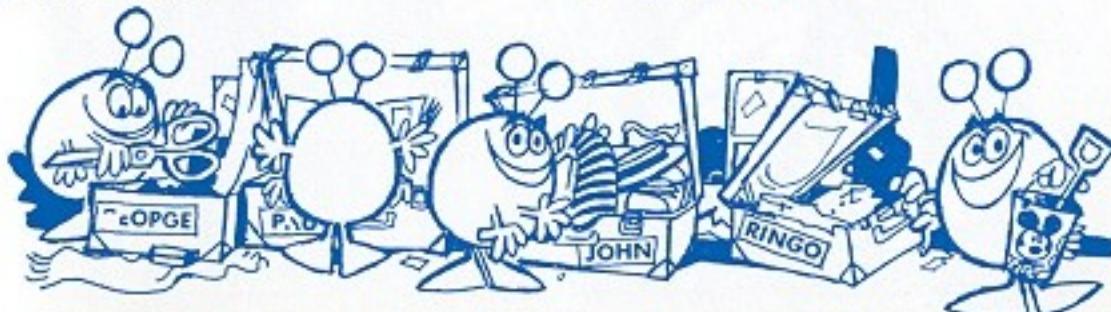
How much I admire your more recent "Beatle type" hair style, the one with the parting over your left eye and your "hur" standing up nicely at the back. (How I wish I had straight hair.)

In Beatles Book No. 23 on page 24 is a picture of you, what had you had done to your hair and when was this please.

Sincerely,  
Graham Stocks (16)  
(One devoted, curly headed male Beatle fan.)  
24, Springfield Avenue,  
Swanley,  
Kent.

*Paul answers:*—

That shot was taken by Les at Twickenham Studios, Graham, when we'd almost finished work on "Help!". I haven't done anything much to my hair—just had it cut!







## A BEHIND THE SPOTLIGHT

by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

Last month, we left you cliff-hanging over the rumours that were plaguing the lives of the Beatles just two years ago. It was Paul who drew attention to the grotesquely inaccurate stories going the rounds about the newly-sensational Beatles ... and he wondered if the same rumours worried other top groups.

"From Me To You" had just finished at the top of the charts. Everybody was talking about the Beatles. Including people who didn't worry about accuracy. "The Beatles have been in a serious car smash ... a couple of them are so badly hurt they'll never appear in public again." "They find they just can't get on with each other now and the group is going to split up." "George Harrison has split his hand open and can't play guitar".

All rubbish. But all put round with such an air of firm belief that many fans took it all in. And Paul pointed out the worst side of it all. "Sometimes we'd get a bit of a giggle out of hearing these things about us. But then we realised it was different for our folks back home in Liverpool. I mean, when the phone goes and your mother answers and there's some nut on the other end saying how sorry they are to hear that John Lennon is going blind or something. And all these marriage rumours ... it's stupid."

On a lighter side, there was the theory that the boys couldn't possibly have grown all that hair themselves and that they wore wigs. The boys took great delight in actively tugging at each other's hair for the benefit of photographers.

But it was only the start of the era of rumours. And also the real start of the Beatles realising that they had to be rather careful what they said to reporters. No—I don't mean they became mealy-mouthed ... they were good and outspoken in their attitudes. But Paul happened to mention that he used green toothpaste for shaving.

Just a gag. In fact, he used a well-known make of green shaving cream. But in poured cartons of green toothpaste. Paul was astonished. And said: "Would you mind telling everybody that I also like using Jaguar cars!"

A lot of the stories that appeared around this time simply made the Beatles laugh. They were forever going through the pop papers and picking up some little tit-bit or other and then going through an elaborate acting performance as they read aloud to the others. One we remember well. It came from an American glossy magazine of enormous circulation.

The writer hinted that Ringo, as the newest Beatle, was rather patronised by the others. Rather treated as the lesser one. So Paul looked straight at Ringo, picked up the magazine and said, very dryly: "Hey, I see we patronise you, Ringo." Ringo laughed at the foolishness of the idea and then went on reading the latest edition of "The Beatles' Book".

### What Marriage?

A lot of the rumours and theories were just laughs. The Paul McCartney-Jane Asher rumours about marriage were going strong even then. They'd been seen together, quoted together, photographed together. But both said they were NOT married.

Despite that, characters appeared with stories of having seen the wedding certificate, copies of insurance policies for

 Ringo, George and John peer through the foliage in a Bournemouth hotel, where they stayed during the autumn of 1963.

both of them . . . some even said quite definitely that they'd been at the wedding service. One fellow artist so-quoted was Noel Harrison. It took a long time to track him down but when questioned he said: "Don't know how these stories get around. All I can say is that it is all a complete load of nonsense."

As we've said, the parents of the boys suffered most . . . in those early days. After all, the boys were now big names. Their every activity was of importance. Now, of course, it is different. The Beatle families know what the boys are like and they know which stories can be believed and which are obviously just a load of rumour-ridden rubbish.

On the work side, these 24 short months ago, the Beatles had it pretty well made. "Please Please Me" was top of the L.P. charts and "Twist and Shout" was right on the summit of the E.P. section. "From Me To You" was nearing the bottom of the Top Twenty, having been in the charts for four months. Everyone was patiently waiting for the next single . . . which was to be "She Loves You".

The boys spent July 29 and 30, 1963, in the studios in London. While the new single was the most important thing, they also stacked away some useful tracks for another L.P. We called to see them in action and couldn't help being impressed at the way the boys now felt so happy and confident in front of that battery of microphones. Recording manager George Martin said then: "It was worth taking a lot of trouble to work out the very best way to handle the boys. Such characters are worth cultivating." No longer were they uncertain about how to get the best sound. They had their own ideas and put them forward to George and to balance engineer Norman Smith.

## Return Date

Following the recording sessions, the boys went back to their home territory, to the delight of thousands of fans. On July 31, they played a date at the Imperial Ballroom, Nelson, then went on to the Grafton, in Liverpool, the following day. It was another trium-

phant return home. Liverpudlians who didn't particularly dig the Beatle style of music couldn't help feeling proud that the boys were doing so much to carry the name of the City the whole length and breadth of the country.

August 3 was an important date. It was back to the Cavern for the boys, with queues stretching round several blocks long before the session was due to start. It was as if the Beatles had won the F.A. Cup. The din was incredible—you could hardly hear the music over the shouts and screams. If the boys had switched off altogether, it's doubtful whether the fans would have realised it right away.

After the session, the Beatles relaxed with strengthened Cokes and wallowed in the joy of being back home. Said Paul, wiping about three gallons of sweat off his brow "There's something about a Liverpool audience that makes 'em different from anywhere else in the country. Suppose it's that they're just not afraid to let themselves go and have a real ball."

Certainly they were getting experience of audiences in different sections of the country. But they obviously had no idea at all that they'd soon be trotting right round the world, playing from Alabama to Australia. For this Liverpool date, thought, the Beatles did a load of their old rockers from the repertoire they'd built up in Germany.

## John talks about States

It was around now that the boys realised they might soon be able to see something of the world. But this period of two years ago was very different from today. There'd been no Beatles then to blaze the way for British groups in the States . . . British pop music was very much a second-rate affair.

Continued on page 31

### RIGHT

Top: Paul and Peter Asher listen to a play back of one of the numbers from the Beatles' new film in E.M.I.'s St. John's Wood No. 2 Studio in London.

Bottom: Ringo and George having a dressing-room discussion with Eppy's co-tour promoter, Arthur Howes.



R D I N G T H E



# A D.J.'S VIEW OF THE BEATLES

by Chris Denning



I think I should start off by saying that, although I am professionally interested in the Beatles—from the point of view of playing their records—I am not ashamed to admit that I am also an incurable fan, and no doubt, would be even if I were a train driver, or a fireman, and not a D.J. Funnily enough though, I couldn't stand them when I first heard them!

This was back in January 1963, a few months after I'd got my first job in broadcasting—as an announcer and disc-jockey for the British Forces Broadcasting Service in Nairobi, Kenya.

## MET THEM

Quite a time went by, however, before I was to meet the group in person. One evening, I was on duty at the B.B.C. TV Centre at White City when I was told that "two of the Beatles are in the building." It turned out that Ringo and George were appearing in "Juke Box Jury" in a studio downstairs.

When I got down to the "Juke Box" studio, they were having a break between the two shows, and it seemed like an ideal opportunity. Ringo was standing there having a chat with David Jacobs and George was in his dressing room. After a minute or two David left

the studio, and so I went up and introduced myself to Ringo who invited me back to his dressing room. We had a long interesting talk about all aspects of music and the music business. I told Ringo that amongst other things I would be presenting "Music In The Night" on Radio Luxembourg, and he answered "Well I hope you're going to play good music and not all this Sinatra rubbish" (despite this, I do play Frank Sinatra on the programme—unfortunately for Ringo—because thousands of our listeners do like it).

## 100% FAN

By now I was a 100% Beatles Fan, and so, when I heard last December, that a weekly Beatles show was to start on Radio Luxembourg, and it was suggested that I should do it—well, you can imagine how pleased

I was. Of course, since this show has been running (now already for more than six months), I've seen the Beatles several times—at their Christmas show in Hammersmith; at their Help! film set at Twickenham; and last week at Paris, amongst others.

What are the Beatles really like? This is the question everybody asks me (as well as asking me to get their autographs!). It's also the most difficult question to answer. I suppose, basically the boys are more or less like their public images; Ringo the quiet one; Paul the tactful one—the diplomat; John the witty one (often the slightly sarcastic one too!); and George the handsome, funny one. How do the boys get on together? Well, like any group of people spending a lot of time in close proximity with each other they have their disagreements, but on the whole they seem to get on remarkably well. When on tour they tend to go out together, of course, (like in Paris when everybody—including Brian Epstein; Road Managers Neil Aspinall, Alf Bicknell, and Mal Evans; and myself found ourselves at Castell's—the Ad-Lib of Paris).

One trouble with the Beatles' popularity is that if one were to play Beatles records in request programmes on the basis of the percentage of cards requesting them, 90% of the records played would be by the four boys! Still it's a problem that doesn't bother me; like I said before—I'm an incurable fan!

Ringo's comment on this pix: "Some statue!"



# THIS MONTH'S BEATLE SONG

## **SHE'S A WOMAN**

*Written and Composed by JOHN LENNON and PAUL McCARTNEY*

Recorded by the Beatles and released on 27th November, 1964.

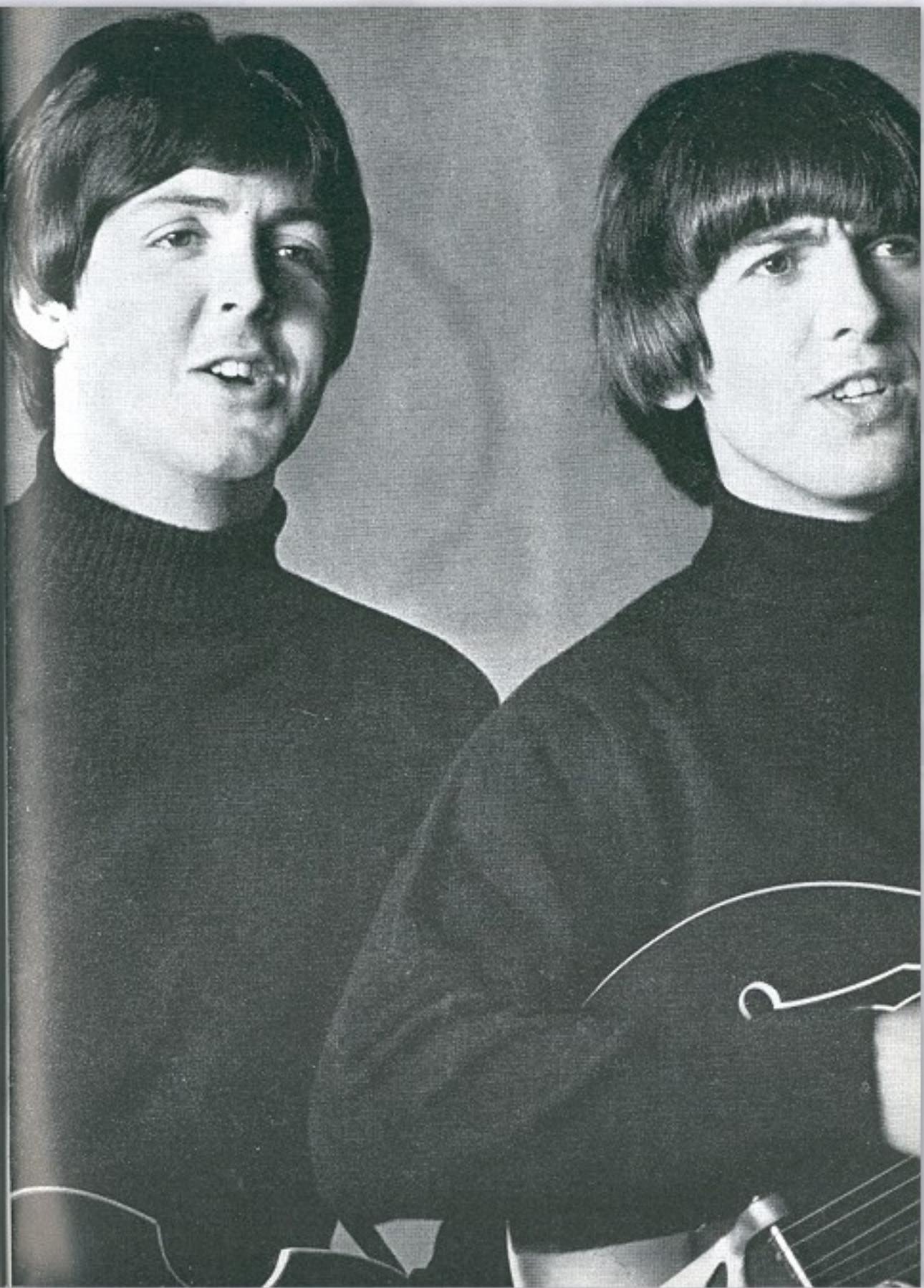
My love don't give me presents  
I know that she's no peasant  
Only ever has to give me love for ever and for ever  
My love don't give me presents  
Turn me on when I get lonely  
People tell me that she's only foolin'  
I know she isn't

She don't give the boys the eye  
She hates to see me cry  
She is happy just to say that  
I will never never leave her  
She don't give boys the eye  
She will never make me jealous  
Gives me all her time as well as lovin'  
Don't ask me why

She's a woman who understands  
She's a woman who loves her man  
My love don't give me presents  
I know that she's no peasant  
Only ever has to give me love for ever and for ever  
My love don't give me presents  
Turn me on when I get lonely  
People tell me that she's only foolin'  
I know she isn't

She's a woman who understands etc.

Repeat verse 1 then  
She's a woman, she's a woman.







## ALL THE FAVOURITES

The boys stuck to most of their old, well-tried favourites for their European tour. The numbers they performed were: "Twist And Shout", "She's A Woman", "I'm A Loser", "Can't Buy Me Love", "Baby's In Black", "I Want To Hold Your Hand", "A Hard Day's Night", "Everybody's Trying To Be My Baby", "Rock And Roll Music", "I Feel Fine", "Ticket To Ride", "Long Tall Sally".

The Beatles have always been hat-conscious, and during their European tour they often went on stage wearing hats which they bought locally. Favourite style amongst them seemed to be the Spanish sombreros.

### ED. SULLIVAN AGAIN

Every time that the boys are reported to be visiting the States, Ed Sullivan immediately contacts Brian Epstein and fixes up for the Beatles to appear. The recording that the boys will make for Ed. Sullivan during their next State-side visit will be shown on September 19th.

### SHOPPING IN SPAIN

John was the Beatle who did most shopping during their recent European tour.

He bought loads of hats and a Spanish guitar. He didn't intend to buy any new instruments but the maker brought the guitar he had just finished to the Beatles' hotel in Madrid and John decided that he would add it to his collection.

### LEFT

Above: The boys holding the golden awards which have just been presented to them by the Editor of Japan's leading music magazine "Music Life", Rumiko Hoshika.

Below: John pouring sherry into a glass from a wine scoop when the boys attended a ceremony in Madrid at which the Lord Mayor of Jerez in Spain presented them with several casks of sherry.

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### BEATLE BOOK BINDERS

We now have a new stock of Beatle Book Binders available for readers to buy.

Each binder will take at least 12 issues—the cost plus postage and packing is 15/-.

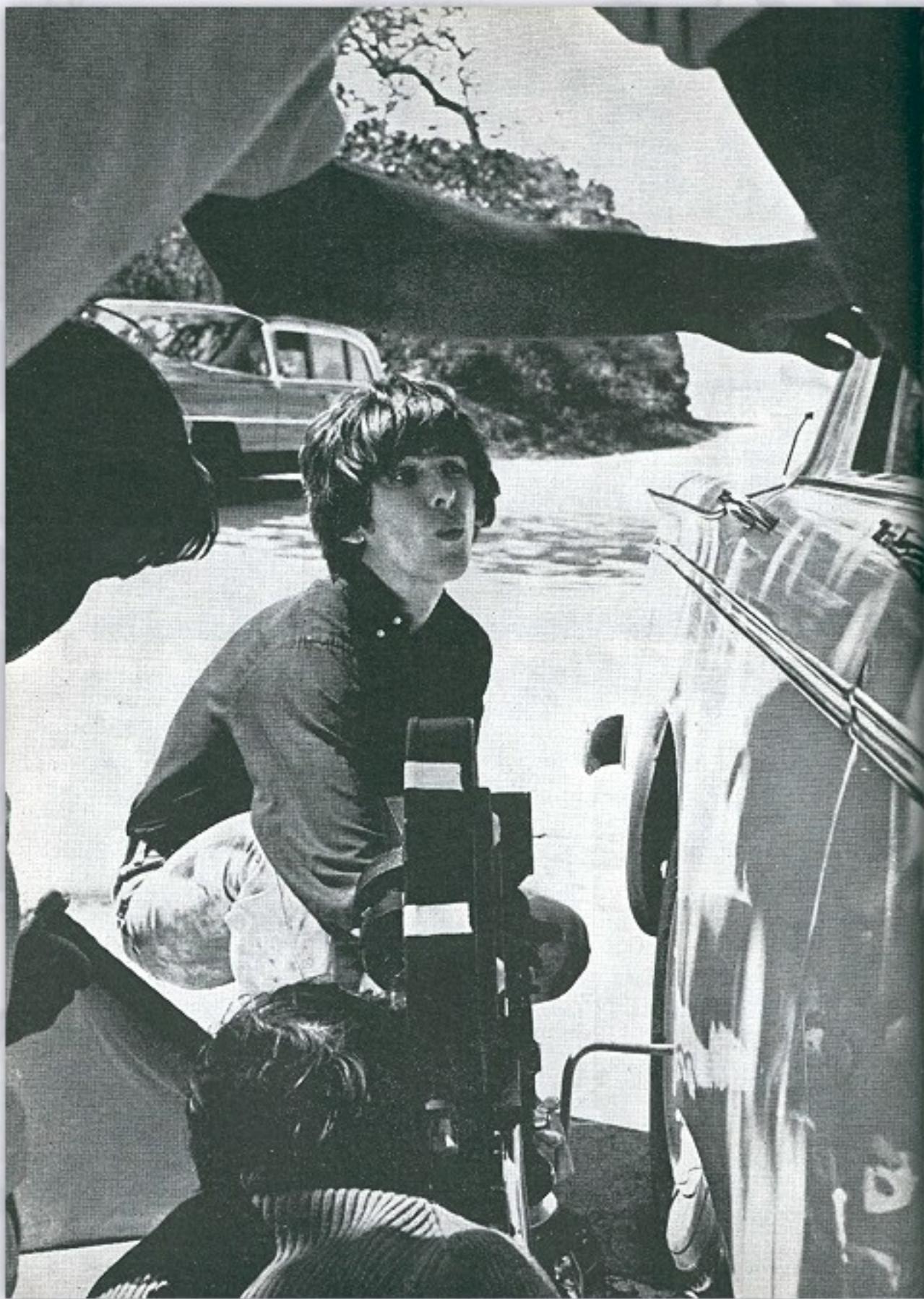
### MOUNTAIN DRIVING

The Beatles had a very unusual experience while they were in Italy.

The Alfa Romeo racing team turned up at their hotel in Milan in two cars and offered to drive them to Genoa. Says Paul "It was a crazy trip. They were doing all this 'heel and toe' driving bit, you know, with the toe on the brake and the heel on the accelerator going round those hairpin bends at about 60 m.p.h."

"None of the boys were the slightest bit scared though" recalls Neil. "You'd have thought that we were driving down Piccadilly in John's Rolls."

Who does Neil rate as the best driver? Well, they're all pretty mad apart from John, but I think George is perhaps the best, now he's got his new white Aston Martin DB5.





Paul looks as though he is trying to get out of their wire cage, but Ringo and John seem to be enjoying their stay in this shot from "Help".

*Continued from page 22*

Said John, in a reflective moment: "I'd love to see the States one day. There's a lot of music there that I'd like to hear. But if we went over to work, we might find it very difficult.

The others more or less agreed. But before they actually had to meet that problem, they had a quick call to make to Blackpool's Queens Theatre, then to the Urmston Show, Urmston, and then on to Jersey for a short stay in mid-August.

The Channel Islands welcomed the boys and it was there that the Beatles got interested in go-karting. Difficult to know who was best at the sport, though Paul certainly took a lot of beating. The weather was very kind to the boys and they took full advantage of the off-duty hours to try and relax.

Just to round off this month's survey of how it WAS with the Beatles, it's timely to recall just what was selling best in America around this time. Top Ten first week in

August, 1963, featured: Little Stevie Wonder, Jan and Dean, the Tymes, the Essex, Surfaris, Elvis, Peter, Paul and Mary, Lesley Gore, Doris Troy—then a number ten issue from Rolf Harris. And HE is Australian! Take the next Twenty—not one single British name.

The British Top Twenty for the same week was headed by Elvis and "Devil In Disguise". There were nine British names in the Twenty—the groups represented were the Searchers, Brian Poole, Gerry and the Pacemakers, the Shadows, and the Beatles.

Consider how the times have changed in just two years. Consider the fantastic influence which was started in the upcoming months afterwards by the Beatles, which led to British domination of the charts both sides of the Atlantic.

It was against this 1963 background of American supremacy that the Beatles took another gigantic step forward. Next month, we'll recall the background of the release of "She Loves You" . . . the disc that really started off all that "yeah, yeah, yeah" bit.

*Left:* Dick Lester tries a close close-up on George.

The Beatles Book

No. 25

AUG.  
1965

